

2014

# The Daily Gamecock, Friday, October 3, 2014

University of South Carolina, Office of Student Media

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# WEEKENDER

Friday, October 3, 2014

1. Florida State
2. Oregon
3. Alabama
4. Oklahoma
5. Auburn
6. Texas A&M
7. Baylor
8. UCLA
9. Notre Dame
10. Michigan State
11. Ole Miss
12. Mississippi State
13. Georgia
14. Stanford
15. LSU
16. Southern Cal.
17. Wisconsin
18. BYU
19. Nebraska
20. Ohio State
21. Oklahoma State
22. East Carolina
23. Kansas State
24. Missouri
25. TCU

THE  
LONG  
ROAD  
BACK







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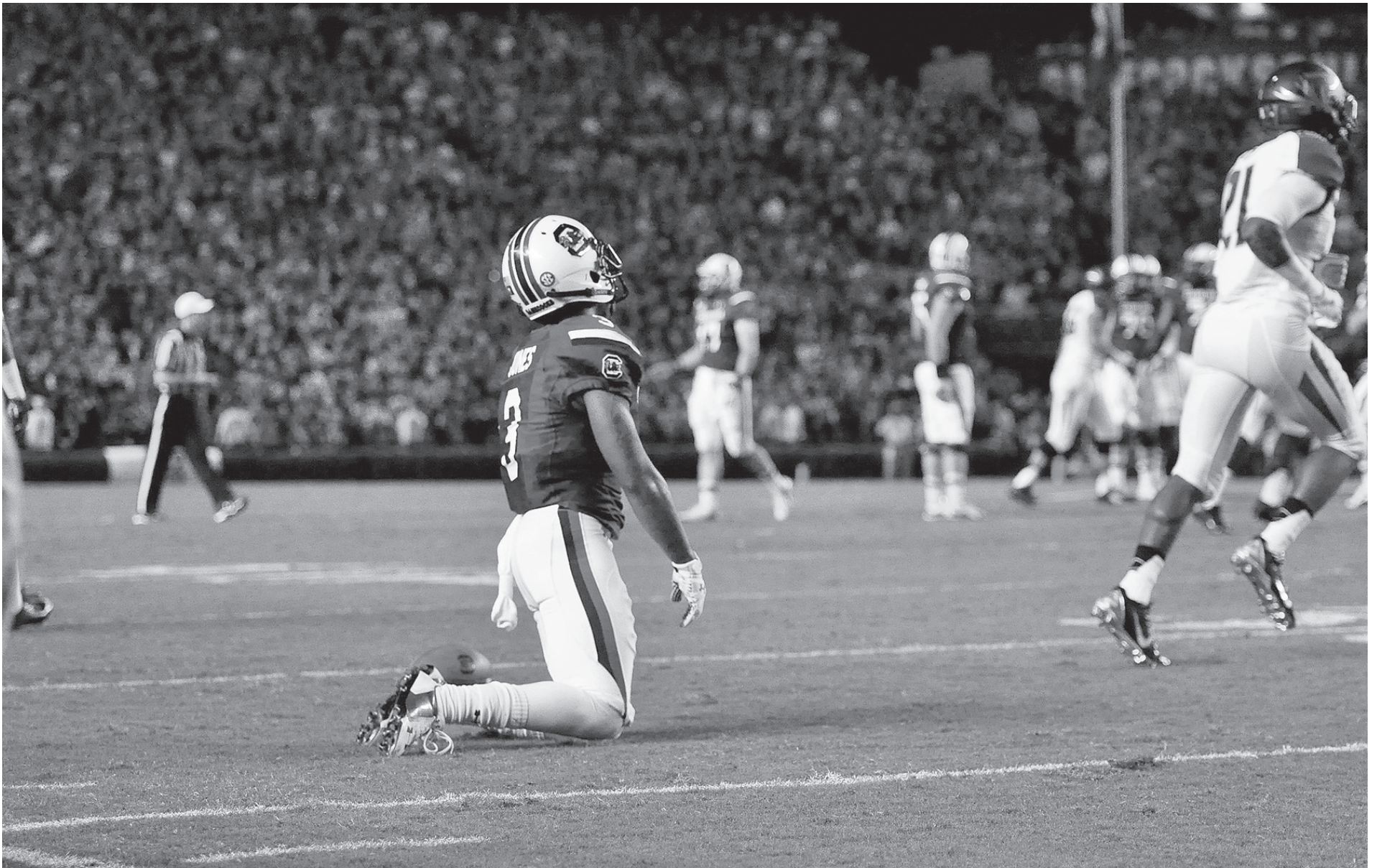


# No room *for* error

South Carolina must win remaining  
conference games to keep SEC  
championship hopes alive

Danny Garrison  
@DANNYLGARRISON





Olivia Barthel | Weekender

Two weeks ago, following a win over Vanderbilt, head coach Steve Spurrier said South Carolina “had all the voters fooled.”

Well, the jig is up.

The Gamecocks were vaulted out of the top-25 after last Saturday’s stunning loss to Missouri, finding themselves unranked for the first time in four years.

And if South Carolina hopes to have even an outside shot at the SEC East title, it cannot lose another conference game.

The Gamecocks have four of those left, and their attempt to run the table and perhaps earn a trip to the SEC title game in December begins Saturday night in Lexington, Kentucky.

“We can’t just let one loss determine the rest of our season,” redshirt senior defensive tackle J.T. Surratt said. “We have to keep pushing forward.”

South Carolina’s meeting with Kentucky this weekend is the definition of a trap game.

Based on preconceived notions, developed over decades of mediocrity,

the Wildcats look like the low-hanging fruit on the Gamecocks’ remaining SEC slate that also features Tennessee at home and trips to Florida and Auburn.

But Kentucky is not to be taken lightly, especially by a South Carolina team that was down 14-0 to Vanderbilt not too long ago.

The Wildcats are 3-1 for the first time since 2010, and they can hardly be faulted for their one loss, a triple-overtime instant classic in a hostile Florida “Swamp.”

“The Kentucky Wildcats are a pretty good team,” Spurrier said. “They don’t look like some of their teams 10, 15 years ago.”

There are a host of factors at work for one of the most exciting Kentucky teams since a nifty bunch of ‘Cats went 11-1 and downed Oklahoma in the 1950 Sugar Bowl.

Sophomore quarterback Patrick Towles has thrown for 1,117 yards and six touchdowns.

The Kentucky defense has allowed just six offensive touchdowns altogether.





Jeffrey Davis | Weekender

And the Wildcats second-year head coach Mark Stoops now has a full year at the helm under his belt.

The same Mark Stoops that can, in a transitive way, be counted as a disciple of Spurrier himself.

Mark's older brother Bob is the head coach at Oklahoma, a job that he took after serving as Spurrier's defensive coordinator at Florida from 1996-1998.

"I'm very familiar with coach Spurrier," Mark Stoops said. "We go back a long way. It's pretty well documented that him and Bob are very close friends. Steve Spurrier Jr. and I work together. I know the family and have an awful lot of respect for coach Spurrier and what he's done. So it will be fun."

Although the Spurriers and the Stoops are personally close enough to vacation together — i.e. last summer's trip to Ireland — they couldn't be further apart when it comes to football philosophy.

A former Heisman-winning quarterback, Spurrier's mind is reserved strictly for the offense. The Stoops family, Mark included, specializes in defense.

And it's shown so far this season.

Kentucky is fifth in the SEC in total defense. The only conference teams better than the Wildcats in that category are ranked in the top-20 nationally.

But even if Kentucky was limping into Saturday's game at 0-4, South Carolina is in no position to overlook anyone.

Through five games, the Gamecocks have proven that they have the talent to compete with anybody, but they've also shown that they have the inexperience to let even the most inferior competition sneak up on them.

Saturday's meeting at Commonwealth Stadium wasn't supposed to be a critical game on South Carolina's schedule.

But from here on out for the Gamecocks, everything is critical.

"We've still got another conference game this weekend," Surratt said. "We're still trying to push on and have a great season. We've still got a lot of goals that we still can accomplish, so that's what we're working towards." ♦



**DON'T**

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**This Page**

# Weekend Calendar

## FRIDAY

### MURDER MYSTERY AT RIVERBANKS ZOO

Riverbanks Zoo & Garden, 500 Wildlife Parkway

Fri, 7 p.m., \$35

Riverbanks zoo is getting spooky this Friday and hosting a “whodunnit” interactive event with Zoo Keepers. The night will include zoo tours, food and drinks, but participants must be 21 or older.

### STOP LIGHT OBSERVATIONS

Music Farm Columbia, 1022 Senate St.

Fri, 8 p.m., \$12 / under 21 \$15

Based out of Mt. Pleasant, the rock group will head up to Columbia to play Music Farm.

### MEDIA HISTORY SYMPOSIUM

Thomas Cooper Library, 1322 Greene St.

Fri, 10 a.m. to noon, 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m., Free

From 10 a.m. to noon, Thomas Cooper will host a roundtable on the futures of media history open to all interested students. Then, from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. there will be tours of the Moving Image Research Collections, offering a look at an estimated 6,000 hours of material.

### EQUESTRIAN VS. GEORGIA

One Wood Farm, Blythewood, South Carolina

Fri, 2 p.m., Free

In a rematch of last year’s SEC and national championships, the No. 5 Gamecocks will host No. 1 Georgia in their home opener. South Carolina will be in search of its first win of the season after falling at Kansas State in its first contest.

## SATURDAY

### ITALIAN FESTIVAL AND BOCCE TOURNAMENT

Robert Mills House, 1615 Blanding St.

Sat, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m., Free

This weekend, the seventh annual Italian Festival returns to Columbia. The event is open to the public and will include traditional Italian food and a market, along with live entertainment and a grape stomping contest.

### MATRIMONY / ALL NEW BADGES / VOLCANOES IN THE KITCHEN / BARNWELL

New Brookland Tavern, 122 State St.

Sat, 8 p.m., \$5 / under 21 \$8

Alternative group Matrimony will come to Columbia from Charlotte to rock the New Brookland Tavern this weekend and rock group All News Badges will play alongside them.

### AJAX IN IRAQ

Longstreet Theatre, 1300 Greene St.

Fri to Sat, 8 p.m. / Sun, 3 p.m., \$18 / \$12 for Students

The first Longstreet Theatre production of the season, “Ajax in Iraq,” is an energetic war story in two parts. The story follows beleaguered soldier A.J. in Iraq while contrasting her story with Ajax’s tragic fall, ultimately commenting on how America treats soldiers and why we fight.

### MEN’S SOCCER VS. CHARLOTTE

Eugene E. Stone Stadium

Sat, 7 p.m., Free with CarolinaCard

South Carolina has won two of its last three game, and the team will look to keep the momentum going Saturday in a Conference-USA matchup with Charlotte.

## SUNDAY

### JERRYFEST

Five Points Fountain

Sun, 3:30 p.m., Free

Presented by Five Points, Jerryfest is an annual event held to honor guitar legend Jerry Garcia from the Grateful Dead. The event is open to the public, invites guests of all ages and is in partnership with the store Loose Lucy’s.

### THE SOIL & THE SUN / MYBROTHER MYSISTER

New Brookland Tavern, 122 State St.

Sun, 8 p.m., \$7

Based out of Grand Rapids, Michigan, The Soil & the Sun identifies their genre as “New Mexican Space Music / Experimental Spiritual Orchestral Rock.” Columbia-based grunge pop group MyBrother MySister will open.

### WOMEN’S SOCCER VS. LSU

Eugene E. Stone Stadium

Sun, 1 p.m., Free with CarolinaCard

With an 0-2 home record in the SEC this season, the Gamecocks will look to earn their first win in Stone Stadium Sunday.

### SUPAH POP

Jamil Temple, 206 Jamil Rd.

Sun, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., \$5

For the first time ever, Supah Pop, a comic and pop culture expo will grace Columbia. Special guests, including “Walking Dead” extras and a former editor-in-chief of Marvel Comics, will join in on the festivities. Aside from deals on comics, toys and games, the expo will feature a cosplay contest.



## Sounds *of the* Town

# Crown the Cake

*Local band performs with zesty flair for crowdwork and uniquely offbeat sensibility*

Erika Ryan  
@RIKE\_RYAN



Hannah Cleaveland | Weekender

There are musicians, and then there are entertainers. Crown the Cake aims to be both.

Crown the Cake's vocalist and co-founder Jame Lathren said anyone can get on stage in flip-flops and play songs, but a band needs some real pizzazz to make an impact. That mentality

has been the group's motto for the eight years they've been together — it's also why their online bio is the word-for-word definition of a wolverine.

"We like to mix it up by always doing something different ... I sat down to write a bio for something, and I thought it would be absurd

to just do something bland. So, I looked up the definition of a wolverine," Lathren said. "I think that aptly describes us."

And their bio does not lie. Lathren and co-founder Sara Thomas, who is now on hiatus, play together with bassist Mark Bennett and drummer Mitch Martin to make some powerful,



“ferocious” music.

Over the years, Crown the Cake has tried slower and more melodic tunes, but with a history of rocking out, the music always seems to go back to the underlying punk sound, accompanied by the requisite kicking over of guitar stands.

They’re often compared to the post-hardcore bands signed to Dischord Records in the late ’80s and early ’90s, but Crown the Cake

has their own way of doing things on stage and behind the scenes. There’s a mutual understanding among the members, and that’s why they’re able to discuss music on a deeper, artistic level.

“I sometimes talk about songs in the context of a color. So, when we’re learning a song, I’ll say, ‘Okay, this song is blues and greens,’” Lathren said. “Strangely enough, these guys get that — or at

least they pretend they do.”

Unconventional? Sure.

But as far as Lathren is concerned, they’re lucky enough to be on the same wavelength. This is exactly why stage presence is a priority, right down to the dress code.

“I asked Jame why there is a dress code with this band. Not that there isn’t with other bands, but because I find it interesting when people pursue a specific image,” Bennett said. “His response was that ‘People ... need some kind of direction, and when they see us all wearing jeans and black shirts, they’ll [know] this is how this works.’”

A unified presentation is almost as important as being in tune to the band — that’s why they outlawed “jorts” during performances. Hours of preparation go into a single show, so the last thing Crown the Cake wants is to seem thrown together.

“If you’re going to stand on a stage and propose that you’re entertaining people, you need to at least show up like you intended to do something beyond sit at the shop and eat a hamburger,” Lathren said. “You need to present something.”

As unified as they are, the band’s creativity primarily comes from working with one another, as opposed to other bands or albums.

“I rely heavily on these guys,” he said. “Mark and Mitch are very talented musicians, and they’re also good sports. They’re willing to try different things and to combine different nuances together.”

Crown the Cake just recently downsized to a three-piece while their lead guitarist is on leave, and they’ve felt a real absence in the band’s persona without Thomas. Lathren pointed out that having a woman on lead guitar shaped the band.

It’s an uncommon setup, but there’s no reason it should be seen that way — female representation in Columbia’s music scene is something Crown the Cake feels we could stand to see more of.

“Not only do you not hear of women in this scene that often — if

you do, they’re the bassists, which is great — but you don’t hear about a rocking [female] guitarist that often,” he said. “When we have looked at bringing other people in ... it needs to be a female ... I think it brings such an organic dynamic by having a female perspective in the band.”

“I sometimes talk about songs in the context of a color. So, when we’re learning a song, I’ll say, ‘Okay, this song is blues and greens.’”

-Jame Lathren

Crown the Cake is unique in plenty of ways, and that’s the way they like it. It’s all about trying new things and branching out of their comfort zone, which may be why of all foods Bennett could compare their band to, he chose a cold Spanish soup.

“Gazpacho,” he said. “It’s unique, it’s not something I’m accustomed to, and it makes me think differently because I make myself eat it, nonetheless. It’s not something I’m familiar with yet, but I’m learning more about it. So, this band makes me think differently.”

Whether it’s wolverines or gazpacho, Crown the Cake is hard to describe. For the past eight years, this has been an artistic journey for Lathren. Through all the changes, he is incredibly grateful for the band he has now. Regardless of how many shows they’ve played or songs they’ve recorded, it’s the experience that keeps him feeling young.

“I’ve always had my hand in art,” he said. “What I’m finding with this band is that music is a priority for me. It’s a true passion for me — it’s something that makes me genuinely happy.” ♦



Hannah Cleaveland | Weekender



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**Intervention & Prevention**  
 Student Health Services



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October

**10**

November

**21**

**Both events will be held**

12-4 p.m.

Martial Arts Room, Strom Thurmond  
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# Ask Dailey

 @askdailey

This week, Dailey tackles a few how-to queries:

1. The “big deal” about marijuana
2. Homesickness following Parents Weekend
3. Unhygienic roommate causing discomfort

You asked, and we answered.

Introducing The Daily Gamecock’s advice column, Ask Dailey.

Whether it’s parking peeves, roommate rivalries or homework hassles, Dailey is here to give you some advice and a smile. Tweet your questions, qualms and quarrels to @AskDailey or email them to [viewpoints@dailygamecock.com](mailto:viewpoints@dailygamecock.com).

**Q** Is weed a big deal? I feel like everyone does it, and it’s way over dramatized on TV and politics and stuff. Why are people still freaking out about it?

— Weed Willy

**A** The debate over whether or not weed is a “big deal” is happening on a national scale right now, and I don’t think I have a place to be a definitive judge on that debate. I will say that I never support the concept that you should be motivated to do something purely by other people are doing it. Remember: whatever goes in your body should be your choice. Make choices based on your feelings and goals, not based on culture or your peers.

**Q** Plain and simple, I miss my mom. I’m too busy to go home, and sometimes, I forget to call. I feel like such a baby, but after Parents Weekend, all I want to do is go home. What should I do?

— Miss My Mom Melissa

**A** Call your mother — she misses you too. Maybe you could even Skype. Seeing her face will help both of you feel better. Make plans for when you go home on breaks, so you have something to look forward to. Above all, you are not a baby for missing your mom. You’ll always miss your mom, even as the years go on. And why wouldn’t you? Moms are the best.

**Q** My roommate smells. He doesn’t shower, and I can’t take it anymore. I can’t have friends over because he’s gross, and it’s kind of embarrassing. What do I do?

— Suffocating Sam

**A** You have to bring this up delicately. Poor personal hygiene could be an indicator of a more serious problem. He could be going through homesickness or depression, and he lost his will to take care of himself. Talk to your RM. They’re trained to deal with this kind of thing. Don’t make him feel attacked. He probably doesn’t think anyone notices, so he’ll probably be embarrassed once it is pointed out. ◇





Gamecock Cuisine

# Hampton Place Cafe

Kamila Melko | Weekender

*World cuisine-inspired sandwiches are as mouthwatering as they are beautiful*

Lois Carlisle  
@LOISCARLISLE

If there were such a thing as a culinary roadmap, it would start at Hampton Place Cafe.

Celebrating their 25th year in business (no small feat for a local eatery), Hampton Place offers a whirlwind tour of America through that most American of foodstuff — sandwiches.

I sat down with Andrew Gendil, owner and

operator, to talk over lunch. Well, I sat — he buzzed around the kitchen preparing a little of everything Hampton Place is known for.

“The Turkey and Swiss really blew us up,” he said. “We make the honey mustard dressing in-house every morning. Then, we introduced the Hali Cali and things just spun off from there.”

He went on to describe several other items on the menu: the BLT with Avocado, the Chicken Salad Club and a new addition called the Smokey (a chicken barbecue sandwich with crispy bacon and soft cheese), which he said is already becoming a recurring order.

Most of the items on the menu are influenced by geography. His family is from “all over,” so he’s eaten broadly over the years. With its sprouts and creamy avocado spread, the Hali Cali is all California. The Smokey and Chicken Salad Club are both Southern deli delicacies. And the corned beef and pastrami goes back to Gendil’s roots.

“My family is Jewish,” he said. “This sandwich is in our blood.”

They also offer something called the Downtown Deluxe, a recipe from his wife’s hometown of Livingston, New Jersey. “We





Kamila Melko | Weekender

**Hours:**

Monday through Friday

10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Closed Saturday and Sunday

**Website/full menu:**[hamptonplacecafe.com](http://hamptonplacecafe.com)**What you want:**

Special Spinach Salad

Green Tea (on tap and sweetened with honey)

Homemade Roasted Red Pepper and Tomato Soup

Hali Cali with a pickle and slaw

were in a deli up there,” he says, telling me a story from his travels. “And the whole table ordered Sloppy Joes. Now, what you think of as a Sloppy Joe and what New Jersey thinks of as a Sloppy Joe are definitely two different things.”

What he ate was a slice of Jewish rye piled high with turkey, roast beef, corned beef, Russian dressing and sweet slaw. When he passed me a Downtown Deluxe (a Jersey Joe) of my own, I couldn’t help but think of the moment in Scooby-Doo when the title character makes a sandwich so huge, you’re pretty sure it’s impossible to eat. (Rest assured — you will find a way.)

Gendil told me they don’t just have sandwiches. They’ve got house-made soups and salads, a big hummus plate and a nacho platter.

“We had everything in the kitchen to make them,” he said. “So we added nachos to the menu. Why not?” (And there’s the Tex-Mex represented.)

Hampton Place also offers a crab quiche based off Gendil’s grandmother’s recipe from Savannah.

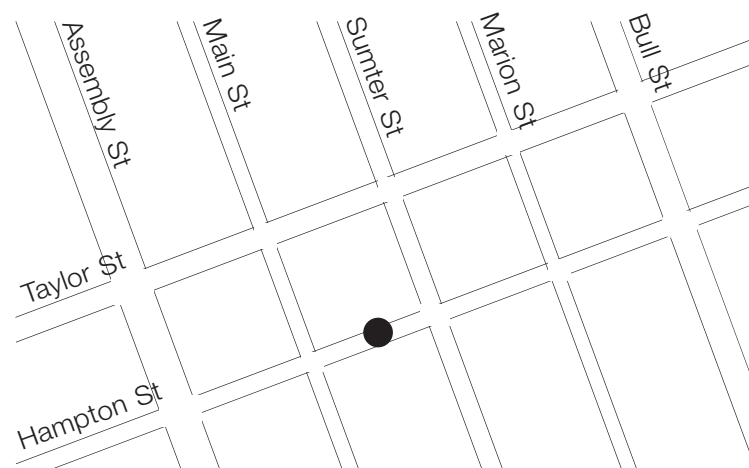
Hampton Street is 25-years-old, a long time to be in business. When I asked what was next for Hampton Street, Gendil laughed.

“Well, we’re trying to get the University to let us take Carolina Cash, but it’s taking a little more time than we thought,” he said.

Carolina Cash or not, this cafe is perfect for students living on campus or around downtown. It’s located in the shadow of the new Hub apartment building, just off of Main. The food is quick and inexpensive and makes for a great lunch or early dinner. Hampton Place also delivers for orders of 10 dollars or more, and they’re on Campus Special if you’re into online ordering.

Stop by for lunch on Monday and try something new. A taste of back home, maybe? Try it out until your hunger wanders in a new direction. ♦

Location: 1230 Hampton St.





# In Columbia: Music Venues



Courtesy of Josh Thompson

*Columbia is home to all kinds of music venues, ranging from big to small, from punk metal to electronica*

Belvin Olasov  
@BELVINOLASOV

Columbia's music scene is surprisingly bustling, and you only have to look at our local venues to find out why. From new arrival Music Farm to old favorite New Brookland Tavern, Columbia is full of great places to check out bands local and touring alike.

## 1. Music Farm

The new kid on the block with a lot to prove, the Columbia Music Farm comes with a strong pedigree — the Charleston Music Farm has been supplying the city with good music for years. Music Farm is unique in its size — it's a medium size venue, so it gets bands too big to play at small dive bars but not quite big enough for the Township Auditorium.





Hannah Cleaveland | Weekender

## 2. New Brookland Tavern

Historically a core part of Columbia's scene, New Brookland Tavern may not look like much. It has a dive-y feel, and its concert area isn't very large. However, this has given the venue a unique charm — the shows feel intimate and the darkened interior suits Columbia's punk scene just fine.

## 3. Foxfield Bar and Grille

This bar and grill has recently ramped up its concerts, and Columbia's music scene thanks them. Foxfield may be a small

venue, but the backyard can play host to the loudest of noise bands. If you want to see some of the most alternative bands around, Foxfield is the place to go.

## 4. Conundrum Music Hall

Conundrum's concert lineup often falls into the "other" category. For any given day, they could be playing an indie rock band or a Siberian drum line. It's that sound diversity that makes Conundrum unique — no matter your age or music taste, chances are, Conundrum has something coming up that feels like it was made just for you. ♦



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# Gamecocks put last week in rear view

*Thompson set to start Saturday, despite early-week concern over neck injury*

Tanner Abel  
@TABELABEL

A grueling contest against Missouri last week left the Gamecock offense with plenty of bumps and bruises, including redshirt senior quarterback Dylan Thompson.

Talking heads around Columbia began to pester coaches about the backup quarterback spot, since Thompson missed Monday's practice with what head coach Steve Spurrier called "a little bit of a sprained neck."

But, Thompson practiced the rest of the week and looks to be just fine for Saturday's matchup against Kentucky.

But that hasn't stopped the calls for a change under center.

Quarterbacks coach G.A. Mangus thought it ridiculous that redshirt sophomore Perry Orth and redshirt freshman Connor Mitch were getting so much press without having played a snap this season. And according to Mangus, neither

has been named the backup in the event that Thompson can't go.

With the uncertainty of Thompson's replacement, the first order of business this week has been keeping him healthy. Spurrier said protection was a big reason why Thompson could not get things going consistently for the Gamecock offense last week.

"Hopefully, we can block a little better," Spurrier said. "We got our quarterback hit hard several times and that affects his play. He gets a little antsy. Everyone gets a little antsy when you get clobbered about four or five times, so you've got to protect your passer."

It's hard to remain confident in the offensive line after it allowed Thompson to get sacked four times against Missouri, and also because the line itself is banged up. Redshirt sophomore right guard Cody Waldrop is doubtful for Kentucky with a knee injury and has already missed the past two games. In his place, redshirt junior Will Sport has turned in decent play but has been allowing pressure to get through the middle of the line.

Redshirt freshman Alan Knott looks at times to be the team's definitive center but hasn't always

put his best foot forward. And redshirt sophomore Clayton Stadnik is lurking in the background to step in at Knott's position, should he mess up drastically.

If South Carolina comes out on offense against Kentucky like it did against Missouri, the result of the game probably won't be pretty, and the Gamecocks could be looking at a shocking 3-3 start.

The Wildcats are a much better defense than they have shown in recent years. They are tied for 13th in the nation in points allowed per game with opponents averaging just 15 per contest. Kentucky is also 25th in the nation in yards allowed per game (323) and 23rd in passing yards allowed per game (186).

However, if there is a weakness on the Kentucky defense, it's stopping the run, which means South Carolina's junior running backs Mike Davis and Brandon Wilds must have a big game.

Davis isn't quite at the same rate of production as he was at this point in the season last year. He is at 368 rushing yards and averaging 4.6 yards per carry to go along with three rushing touchdowns.

Production is a little slower for Davis this season, perhaps due to injuries. He only mentioned specifically that he's been dealing with a nagging ankle but said other hits have left him nicked up. Yet, Davis added that he does not think about being hurt during games.

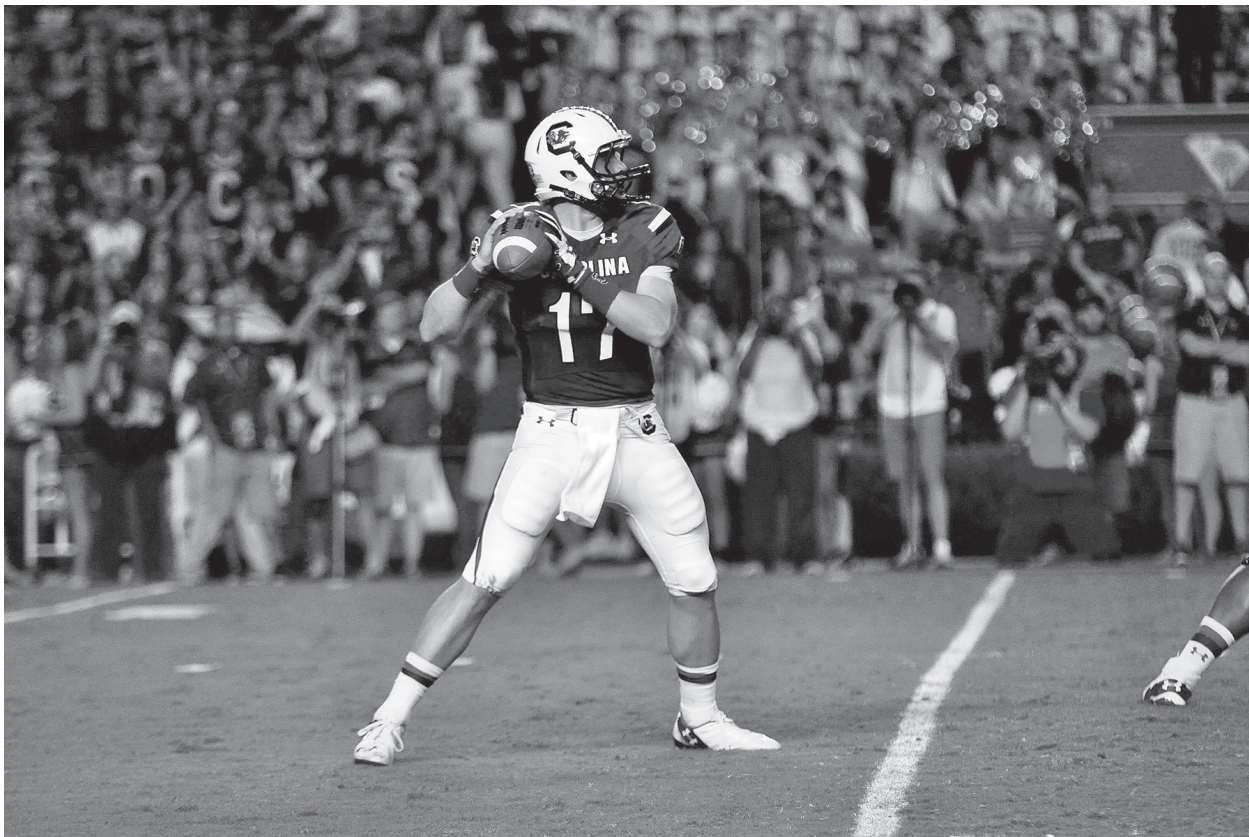
"I just try to do my best and lay my body on the line for my teammates," he said. "As long as we win and it's productive, then I don't really care about what my stats are."

Davis said the main thing he's concerned about regarding Kentucky is that its defense does a good bit of blitzing and uses a number of odd-man formations, so the Gamecock offense has to be ready to face the pressure.

Especially after seeing what Missouri's pass rush did to Thompson, more teams will use it as a blueprint to discourage South Carolina's aerial attack.

The Gamecocks can't remain agonized about their slow offensive production last week, and they know they need to do better to beat the Wildcats.

"We just have to have that next game mentality," redshirt senior receiver Nick Jones said. "Of course that was a tough loss, but it's a new week. We have to shake it off and prepare for Kentucky. They're a real talented team on the rise, so we have to get ready for a grind-it-out battle." ◇



Olivia Barthel | Weekender



# MUSIC FARM

1022 SENATE STREET ■ COLUMBIA, SC 29201 ■ MUSICFARM.COM

 <b>THE REVIVALISTS</b> OCT 8	 <b>COREY SMITH</b> OCT 10	 <b>SISTER HAZEL</b> OCT 16	 <b>PATRICK DAVIS</b> OCT 17
 <b>KELLER WILLIAMS</b> OCT 18	 <b>POP EVIL</b> OCT 23	 <b>BIG GIGANTIC</b> OCT 30	 <b>ATLAS ROAD CREW</b> OCT 31
 <b>THE BLUE DOGS</b> NOV 7	 <b>ERIC HUTCHINSON</b> NOV 11	 <b>BREATHE CAROLINA &amp; CANDYLAND</b> NOV 15	 <b>O.A.R.</b> NOV 17

Oct 19 Jazz Showcase & Workshop **FREE!**    Nov 6 Ryan Hemsworth  
Oct 29 I'm Shmacked    Nov 21 Who's Bad

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clinics. Check our website for  
locations and times:  
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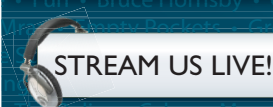
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Courtesy of MCT Campus

## Kentucky challenges South Carolina with revamped pass attack

David Roberts  
@DAVIDJAYROBERTS

Like waking up on Christmas Day as a kid, college football routinely brings unforeseen surprises in the wake of uncontrollable excitement.

The Southeastern Conference

is typically reliable for a surprise present or two — see Auburn's 2013 squad if you don't believe me.

While South Carolina has received a couple of giant lumps of coal from Kenny Hill and Maty Mauk, Kentucky has yet to unwrap its present from Aunt Marge that every year seems to contain hand-woven socks.

The Wildcats are riding high during the young season and are halfway to bowl eligibility with a

3-1 record. The team's lone loss, which came at Florida and took three overtimes to decide, could — at worst — be described as a moral victory. Kentucky then made Vanderbilt look like Vanderbilt last weekend to secure the team's first SEC win under head coach Mark Stoops.

But what has been overwhelmingly impressive thus far is the team's ability to move the ball and put points on the

scoreboard. The Wildcats have yet to play an imposing defense and most likely won't until they visit LSU in a couple of weeks. Even still, Kentucky was able to put up 30 points on the solid defense of Florida. It's also worth noting that 369 of Kentucky's 450 total yards came through the air, the highest passing total in an SEC game for the school since Andre Woodson passed for 430 yards in a 52-50 loss to Tennessee in 2007.



Kentucky's 473 yards per game is the seventh-highest average in the SEC, but it's the largest figure in the SEC East. Second to Kentucky's total is Georgia, which is averaging 462.5 yards per game.

Just two years ago, the Wildcats finished the season ranked 113th in the nation in total offense, averaging a measly 315 yards each time they played.

However, that was before both Stoops and sophomore quarterback Patrick Towles arrived in Lexington, Kentucky.

"Mark [Stoops], his background is defense, but what they've done a good job of is the strength and conditioning of their team," head coach Steve Spurrier said. "They've had some nice recruiting years, and their team looks good."

Towles won the quarterback job after last year's starter, Jalen Whitlow, transferred to Eastern Illinois. Since taking over as the No. 1 QB, Towles has yet to disappoint.

He has passed for 300 yards twice this season, and he'll face a Gamecock defense that showed signs of improvement against Missouri but still ranks 103rd in passing yards allowed per game.

"They're good up front," Towles said of South Carolina's

defense. "Kind of an inexperienced secondary, but still talented. No matter who runs out there, they're going to be an experienced player."

The Gamecocks will not have to deal with freshman running back Stanley Williams and freshman wide receiver Dorian Baker, as they have been suspended from the team along with two other freshmen for violating team rules. Without Williams, the Wildcats still house three running backs that have rushed for at least 100 yards this year.

Kentucky's offense is similar to South Carolina's in that the quarterback takes most of his snaps out of the shotgun and likes to spread defenses out. The Gamecocks have progressed in defending the spread offense and are further along than when they were against Texas A&M to start the season, but secondary coach Grady Brown knows the defense is not yet where it needs to be.

"I have no comfort level with anything [that we're doing] right now," Brown said. "We're getting better, but maybe you could rephrase it. I don't have a comfort level with anything that we're doing because we're not playing as well as we need to play." ♦



Jeffrey Davis | Weekender



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# Week Two predictions

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**Danny Garrison**  
Sports Editor



**David Roberts**  
Asst. Sports Editor



**Tanner Abel**  
Asst. Sports Editor



**Dalton Abel**  
Senior Writer

Alabama (3) at Ole Miss (11)
LSU (15) at Auburn (5)
Texas A&M (6) at Miss. State (12)
Stanford (14) at Notre Dame (9)
Nebraska (19) at Michigan State (10)
Oklahoma (4) at TCU (25)
Texas Tech at Kansas State (23)
Florida at Tennessee
Vanderbilt at Georgia (13)
South Carolina at Kentucky

Ole Miss	Alabama	Ole Miss	Alabama
Auburn	LSU	Auburn	Auburn
Texas A&M	Texas A&M	Texas A&M	Miss. State
Notre Dame	Notre Dame	Stanford	Stanford
Nebraska	Michigan State	Michigan State	Michigan State
Oklahoma	Oklahoma	Oklahoma	Oklahoma
Texas Tech	Kansas State	Kansas State	Kansas State
Tennessee	Florida	Tennessee	Tennessee
Georgia	Georgia	Georgia	Georgia
S. Carolina 38 Kentucky 24	S. Carolina 34 Kentucky 21	S. Carolina 30 Kentucky 24	S. Carolina 37 Kentucky 27



Behind Enemy Lines

# Five questions with Kentucky Kernal sports editor, Kevin Erpenbeck

## New talent on defense, stable QB help Kentucky return to relevance

Kevin Erpenbeck  
@KYKERNELSPORTS

**Q** Four Kentucky freshmen were suspended earlier this week for Saturday's game. How will their absence effect the Wildcats' plan?

**A** Two of the four suspended players were set on being redshirted this year: Drew Barker and Tymere Dubose. Stanley "Boom" Williams and Dorian Baker are the headline players for the suspension. Baker's absence can be huge. It takes away depth from UK's wide receiver position, and he's second on the team for catches. Javess Blue's return to the lineup was helpful against Vanderbilt, but missing wide receiver depth can be a blow to the team. Williams is a decent running back, but he's young. He adds speed to the backfield, but the team can be fine going with Jojo Kemp and starter Braylon Heard. Williams' absence might be most felt in kick returns.

**Q** Based on how the team played against Florida and Vanderbilt, it looks like Kentucky is a much better team this year. What difference have you seen between this season and last?

**A** An improved defense is the most notable aspect, especially with the front seven. [Head coach Mark] Stoops' defensive recruits are playing really well, and the veteran-laden secondary has stepped up its game. A stable quarterback situation has also contributed to the greater win total this season, but it's definitely the improved defense that has had the biggest impact on the team.

**Q** As he tends to do, Steve Spurrier has taken some shots at Kentucky this week. How does the fan base in Lexington feel about the Head Ball Coach?

**A** I can't speak for the entire fan base in Lexington. I know some fans who hate Steve Spurrier, regardless of what he says at a press conference. His time at Florida is a big contribution to that, but his current stint at South Carolina is starting to irk some of the younger fans as well. There are other fans that know Spurrier as brutally honest and don't

really pay any mind to his comments about what UK's speed was like 10 or 15 years ago.

**Q** How impressed have you been with quarterback Patrick Towles this year coming off a redshirt season?

**A** Semi-impressed. Patrick Towles is a home-grown Kentucky boy, so it's good seeing him be productive with UK's offense. He played a little bit during his freshman year (the year he was actually supposed to redshirt), so his capability has always been sort of known. He's been inconsistent in his last two games and turnover prone (four interceptions and a lost fumble), but he's exceeded most preseason expectations overall.

**Q** What player do you think could have a breakout performance against South Carolina?

**A** Freshman wide receiver Garrett Johnson has been a great asset on the offense. His playing time will definitely increase with Baker's absence, and he may even start in the game. Look for him to be a deep threat against South Carolina.

## Prediction:

Final score: 31-17 South Carolina. The Gamecocks are going to come in angry after their poor performance against Missouri, and their defense is good enough to give UK fits. The game might be close at halftime (17-7), but a lack of a consistent offense might wear down the Cats' defense in the second half.

P.S.

The suspension didn't change the line of thought about the game. UK's chances of winning aren't very high even with all four freshmen on the team.





### 3 top-15 matchups highlight big weekend around conference

Dalton Abel  
@DALTON\_ABEL22

#### No. 3 Alabama at No. 11 Ole Miss

The Rebels avoided a near letdown at the hands of Memphis last Saturday to secure College GameDay's presence in Oxford this weekend. The last time we saw the Crimson Tide, the rest of the SEC swooned, as it witnessed the blossoming of the lethal connection between Blake Sims and Amari Cooper connection in a 42-21 rout of Florida. Sims threw for over 400 yards and four touchdowns in the victory, hitting Cooper — who amassed 201 yards — for three of them. All eyes will be on Ole Miss quarterback Bo Wallace to see if the senior can deliver in a big moment. When the Gamecocks needed Wallace most last year in the second-

to-last game of the year against Missouri, Wallace turned in an uninspired performance, failing to record a touchdown and engineering just 10 points. Through four games this year, Wallace has already thrown an SEC-worst six interceptions. Carelessness with the football will not fly against a Crimson Tide defense that has adjusted for the better since an unconvincing win over West Virginia in the opener. The saving grace for Ole Miss may be the defensive unit that has only allowed 8.5 points per game. If they can't keep the Crimson Tide under 30 points, the Rebel's chances will most likely take a crushing blow.

#### No. 6 Texas A&M at No. 12 Mississippi State

The Bulldogs were unranked before their last game, but a road win at LSU coupled with losses elsewhere in the country has Dan Mullen's bunch on the verge of the top ten. With a week off to refocus, Mississippi State will be raring to go in one of their bigger home games in recent memory. Meanwhile, Texas A&M needed 200 yards and three touchdowns from quarterback Kenny Hill in the fourth quarter and overtime alone to erase a 14-point deficit in order to defeat Arkansas last weekend. Hill leads the SEC in passing yards and has the Aggies on the verge of their first 6-0 start since 1994, something Johnny Manziel never did. Saturday's contest will likely see Hill and Bulldog quarterback Dak Prescott jockey for position in the Heisman race, but it may be the defense that can overcome a new challenge

that will decide this game. The Aggies' spread offense is unparalleled to anything the Bulldogs have seen this year, while Prescott is the most dangerous dual-threat quarterback in the SEC. If the game is decided late, the Aggies may have the edge. Texas A&M leads the nation this year in fourth quarter scoring margin, while the Bulldogs are 100th.

#### No. 15 LSU at No. 5 Auburn

Of the six SEC West teams in the AP Top 15, LSU is the only one with a loss. This fact alone may be enough to give Les Miles' squad the upper hand at Auburn. Saturday marks the beginning of a brutal stretch for Auburn that will make it earn its way back to the SEC title game and then some. Following this Tiger-Tiger showdown, Auburn has five straight against Mississippi State, South Carolina, Ole Miss, Texas A&M and Georgia. Regarding elements of the non-supernatural kind, Auburn's offense has not looked overly impressive thus far. It took a stout defensive effort for the Tigers to survive Kansas State a couple weeks ago, as their offense attempts to climb out of the bottom of the SEC in many statistical categories. LSU is hoping freshman quarterback Brandon Harris will be the spark the Tigers need. Harris took over for sophomore Anthony Jennings early in last week's win over New Mexico State, after Jennings turned the ball over three times. If LSU is to stay alive in the National Playoff race, they'll need to pick up a huge road win. Alabama, Texas A&M and Ole Miss still remain. ◇

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		6					8	3
4		2				1		5
					7			
9				8				7
		4		9		3		
6				5				2
			1					
8		7				5		6
1	5					4		

Level **1** 2 3 4

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Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

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### ACROSS

1 River movement  
5 You can count on them  
10 Braff of "Scrubs"  
14 Cleanse  
15 Does a scrapbooking task  
16 Away from the wind  
17 Tension-easing activity  
19 Breathing organ  
20 In accordance with  
21 Road trip respite  
22 Triangular architectural feature  
23 Music to a collector's ears  
28 Pursue quietly  
30 IRS business designation  
31 Partner of ciencias  
32 Perfect  
36 Warsaw \_\_\_\_  
37 Drink suggested by the starts of 17-, 23-, 47- and 58-Across  
39 Ancient gathering place  
41 Fried, filled tortilla  
43 All-out  
44 Be gaga over  
46 Keystone State team, familiarly  
47 New Orleans tourist spot  
52 Patron saint of girls  
53 Campaigned  
54 www address  
57 Men's clothing cut  
58 Starlet's benefactor, perhaps  
62 Alien-seeking org.  
63 Circle  
64 Thunder sound  
65 African antelope  
66 Mixer that completes 37-Across  
67 Start of North

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14					15						16			
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	41			42						43				
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47	48	49	50					51						
52							53				54	55	56	
57					58	59	60				61			
62					63						64			
65					66						67			

3 Outclass  
4 "Charlotte's \_\_\_\_"  
5 Cut taker  
6 White-wine cooking liquids  
7 Diving bird  
8 Hook shape  
9 Leb. neighbor  
10 Big name in restaurant surveys  
11 Out  
12 Yo-Yo Ma's instrument  
13 Abductee of Paris  
18 Skating venues  
22 George who famously asked Knute Rockne to "win just one" for him  
24 Ellington's "\_\_\_\_ Song Go Out of My Heart"  
25 Eyepieces  
26 Thing to pass in class  
27 Word with gum or rain  
28 Gullible sort  
29 Gillette's \_\_\_\_ II

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37 Olympic sport in which belts are worn  
38 Second word of many fairy tales  
40 They're rolled in Spain  
42 Chocolate critters  
43 Turn over  
45 Company with a spokesbaby

50 Alternate song recording  
51 Less grilled, say  
55 Nutritional figs.  
56 Singer Lovett  
58 Hem, say  
59 Sch. founded by Jefferson  
60 Heater  
61 King Kong, e.g.



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